



Energy Saving
Partners



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GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION AND SUNPOWER, INC. CELEBRATE WEATHERIZATION DAY

Ad Council's Energy Hog to Visit Lakewood Home on October 26

DENVER, CO, October 26, 2004 – The Colorado Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation (OEMC) and Sun Power, Inc. a local service provider, are celebrating "Weatherization Day" on October 26, in Lakewood. Sun Power will host the event at a local home and demonstrate energy saving techniques. "Weatherization" represents the various ways to make homes more energy efficient. In Colorado, free weatherization efficiency services are offered to income-qualified households through the Energy Saving Partners (ESP) Program, a program of OEMC.

The Energy Hog will join the "Weatherization Day" celebrations. The Energy Hog is the "Spokes Villain" for the Ad Council's national energy savings campaign, which is targeted to children. The Ad Council has created famous campaigns such as "Smokey Bear" and "Crash Test Dummies." The Energy Hog puts a face to the invisible concept of wasting energy, and is a character that kids love to hate. Children can learn more about the Energy Hog and energy issues at www.energyhog.org.

The event begins at 10:30 a.m. and is in Lakewood. The Energy Hog will conduct the tour of the energy efficiency measures done at the home. Also, the Energy Hog will point out tips on other ways to lower utility bills.

At every weatherized home, technicians perform an energy audit to determine the most cost-effective weatherization techniques, as well as assess health and safety conditions, such as carbon monoxide levels. Often during an audit, it may be discovered that a furnace is operating unsafely, causing carbon monoxide to leak into the home. When these situations arise, ESP can repair or replace the furnace.

In addition to safety measures, technicians use the audit to guide the energy efficiency investments made in the home. For example, adding insulation, efficient lighting and replacing the refrigerator can significantly reduce energy usage. The year's demonstration home received insulation to stop drafts and heat loss. Also, the home's refrigerator was replaced with a new energy efficient model.

"Energy efficient homes are the best way to fight the rising cost of energy. Weatherization services reduce the energy burden on Colorado's neediest families and produce warmer, safer and more affordable homes," said Jeff Ackermann, program manager of Energy Saving Partners. "Weatherization Day allows us to promote energy efficiency and we are happy to have the Ad Council's Energy Hog join in this educational effort in Denver."

Low-income households struggling with their utility bills can also receive help through the Low-income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP), which begins accepting applications on November 1. LEAP eligible households also automatically qualify for weatherization services. LEAP and ESP work hand-in-hand: LEAP represents an immediate response to the situation, and ESP offers a longer term solution. ESP is funded through the US Department of Energy, Colorado Department of Human Services, and Xcel Energy, Inc.



Weatherization Day, October 26, cont'd

For the past 28 years, weatherization has provided Colorado's neediest families with safe, warm comfortable homes through energy saving measures. Almost 90,000 homes have been weatherized in Colorado. Weatherization has proven to reduce the average monthly energy bill by 15 to 30 percent. For every dollar invested in weatherization, \$1.30 in energy-related benefits is created, at current prices.

Denver is the second event in the state to celebrate "Weatherization Day," with other events held in Grand Junction, October 25; Leadville, October 27; and Longmont on October 28. For more information or how to qualify for weatherization services, contact E\$P at 1-888-HEATLINE or in Denver, call Sunpower at (303) 382-1514. To visit the Energy Hog online, visit www.energyhog.org.

If you would like to attend "Weatherization Day," please RSVP to Megan Castle for further information and directions at (303) 894-2383 x 1211 or megan.castle@state.co.us.

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